(b) and (c) Other Telecom service companies can enter into mutual agreements with BSNL for sharing the optical fibre on agreed terms and purposes, including broadband internet.

Introduction of 3G policy

1350. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to introduce 3G policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that once the 3G policy is implemented it would help promote faster roll out of rural applications; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) While no time frame has been fixed for introduction of 3G technology, some of the Service Providers may commence roll out of 3G services in next financial year.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the 3G technology, due to better spectral efficiency, would provide higher capacity and essentially targets to provide additional features to the customers including broadband wireless services.

Telecommunication links in border areas

1351. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish telecommunication links for better border management;

(b) if so, the details of border areas where this link is proposed to be provided;

(c) the total estimated cost of establishing the telecommunication links; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to complete this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The